

community. As the general manager of the WOSU stations, Dale was responsible for the addition of more than four new stations and the expansion of the listening area. He is also the founding member and first Board President of the Ohio Public Broadcasting Alliance and Public Radio in Mid-America. Dale is a board member and past president of the Ohio Educational Television Stations and Ohio Public Radio. He has helped to educate tomorrow's leaders as a professor of Communications and Journalism at The Ohio State University. Finally, Dale is a co-founder and past Chairman of Kids Voting Ohio, a past president of the Dublin/Worthington Rotary Club, and a member of the Columbus Zoo Board.

Dale's work has been honored at the highest levels of the industry. His commendations include National Public Radio's highest award for distinguished service, the Edward Elson Award. His contributions to broadcasting have also been recognized by Public Radio in Mid-America, the National Black Programming Consortium, the International Dictionary of Distinguished Leadership, and the Ohio Educational Broadcasting Association.

Mr. Speaker, Dale Ouzts has set a standard for professional achievement and community involvement that few can match. I'm proud to join his family, friends and others in our community in thanking him for his many years of exemplary service.

#### TRIBUTE TO GLEN STONEBRINK

#### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 6, 2003*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Glen Stonebrink, on the occasion of his retirement. During his long and distinguished career, Glen has committed his energy and efforts to making both his community and the State of Oregon better places to live. Glen's accomplishments range from educating our young people to advocating on behalf of rural Americans, two pursuits that he has approached with selfless dedication. His commitment, spirit and devotion to his fellow citizens have been his most defining trait over the years, and I am proud to call Glen and his wonderful wife, Loydee, my friends.

As a high school teacher at Yamhill Carlton High School and then as a college professor at Linfield College, Glen devoted his energy and talent to training a new generation of Oregonians in math, physics, and computer science. It is perhaps Glen's dedication and devotion to the young people he instructed that will serve as his most enduring legacy.

As many of my colleagues know, the West is known for its stunning natural beauty, fertile soil and lush timberlands. We owe a debt of gratitude to those individuals who devote themselves to protecting our national treasures while preserving the farming and ranching way of life for future generations. Growing up on his family's wheat and cattle ranch in the high country of Wallowa County, Glen learned firsthand the importance of balancing these interests while working to protect the values of rural Oregonians.

Glen's real world understanding and education in natural resource issues led to his appointment under both the Reagan and Bush

Administrations as the State Executive Director for the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service, now known as the Farm Service Agency. In this prestigious position he had the opportunity to help preserve and promote American agriculture while working with farmers to implement programs to conserve land and water resources.

After his term as State Executive Director of the Oregon Farm Services Agency, Glen brought his knowledge of the West to Washington, D.C., where he worked as the Legislative Director for Congresswoman Helen Chenoweth of Idaho. During his tenure working on Capitol Hill, my staff worked closely with him on a number of issues impacting the cattle and ranching industry.

For the last six years, Glen has served as the Executive Director of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, working to protect the ranching way of life. Glen has been a tireless advocate for rural issues ranging from private property rights to water rights. He is also called upon frequently to advise groups on natural resource issues and provide assistance in working with the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Glen Stonebrink on the many achievements that mark his long and impressive career. I am grateful for all that he has done on behalf of the people of Oregon and the people of the rural West. I wish Glen, Loydee and their entire family all the best in their future endeavors.

#### HONORING MR. ED SEDER ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 6, 2003*

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, every community has certain individuals who define it. These are people who, by virtue of their character and commitment, make the community a better place in which to live and work.

In my district, Connecticut's Second District, in the city of Norwich, Ed Seder is such an individual. Ed recently celebrated his 90th birthday. I have been friends with Ed for many years. For decades he has been a pillar in the Norwich business community and he represents the city's rich industrial past.

Ed projects a vibrant energy and continues to be involved with the community, proving that although we can't help growing older we don't have to get old. As an old saying informs us, "You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake." Ed is not quite there yet.

The Seder family owns the second oldest family business still in existence in Norwich—Shetucket Paper and Supply. The business was established in 1918 and Ed still works there. Ed has been active in the community for many years—he served on the city school board and in the 1960s he was a member of the Norwich City Council.

Throughout his adult life he has had the support and love of his wonderful wife Lillian and their three children.

How do folks keep a business thriving for so many years? The answer is simple—they work at it. That's the old-fashioned concept of hard work that made America what it is today—a

free and flourishing nation that draws people with dreams and aspirations from all over the world.

Ed Seder and his family have achieved because they worked at it. He's the kind of person who found solutions to problems because he looked for them and then he worked at them. When Ed Seder tells you something, you can take it to the bank.

If you think about what you ought to do for other people, your character will take care of itself. Ed Seder is a man of character. He has spent his lifetime working for and in his community. As a result, Norwich, Connecticut is a better place to live, work and raise a family thanks to Ed Seder. Happy birthday, Ed.

PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABILITY: CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW

#### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 6, 2003*

Ms. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Chairman SHAYS and Ranking Member KUCINICH for calling this important hearing on Public Safety Interoperability. Earlier this year, I met with Fire Stations and Police Departments in my district. Each one of them highlighted the need for a communications system that would allow law enforcement, fire fighters, and other first responders to talk to one another.

To this end, the Los Angeles County Fire Department with minimal resources and funds initiated an interoperability communications pilot program, known as the Los Angeles Regional Tactical Communication System (LARTCS). This system enables various agencies to directly speak to another on one channel for both short-term and long-term incidents.

The pilot program only serves a portion of the County, while the Los Angeles County Fire Department provides services to 58 municipalities and spans a 3,000-mile radius. This includes dense, rural, and remote suburban areas.

The LARTCS has already proven to be a success, particularly in the southern California wildfires. According to the Los Angeles County Assistant Fire Chief, Eric Ekeberg, "the fires hit the region really hard, but it could have been a lot worse if the communication system was not in place."

I commend the foresight and dedication of the Los Angeles County Fire Department and all participating agencies that includes law enforcement, EMS, and other first responders for establishing this pilot program. Amazingly, this system was put in with minimal funds.

This successful pilot program proves that Congress needs to do more to fund interoperability systems, whether it is through additional FEMA grants or cutting the red tape, so that the first responders of LA County, and multiple counties throughout California and the nation, can talk to one another.

We need to do more to protect our public servants as well as the general population. Therefore, I look forward to the testimonies of the witnesses who might shed some light on this salient issue, not just for first responders, but all Americans.